

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

SN: 10/806,951; APPLICANT: Blake Edward Ratcliffe; FILED: March 22, 2004

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Annexure 2 - Abstract Rewritten to Show Amendments

Please amend the Abstract of the Disclosure as follows:

A method of manufacturing an inlay panel uses the steps of providing an art master rendering as ~~[[constitute]]~~ a decorative design for the inlaid panel; entering into a control computer graphical data corresponding to a plurality of laser cutting paths, first laser cutting a panel in accordance with the graphical data; second laser cutting a panel in accordance with the graphical data to produce a plurality of panel portions; and attaching the plurality of panel portions to a substrate to form the decorative panel. One of the plurality of panel portion then is finished. The step of entering graphical data corresponding to the plurality of cutting paths can be performed on a CAD system to produce machine code for controlling the laser beam. The graphical data can be entered, in some embodiments by scanning electronically the art master to form an art master data file. ; transferring the art master data file to a CAD software system to form an art master CAD file; coordinating a laser beam to cut through a first background panel and create negative image voids; driving a CNC laser cutting machine in response to the machine code coordinates; coordinating a laser beam to cut through a second panel for forming positive images that become inlay elements; bonding the first background panel and the second panel; placing the inlay element in appropriate voided spaces; and finishing the composite panel and the inlay elements. A decorative panel is also formed of panel portions cut by laser using data inputted directly into a computer graphics system.